

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF INSPECTORS

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS STATE PRISON,

TOGETHER WITH

THE ANNUAL REPORTS

OF

THE WARDEN

AND OTHER OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

OCTOBER 1, 1865.

BOSTON:

WRIGHT & POTTER, STATE PRINTERS,
No. 4 SPRING LANE.

1866.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF INSPECTORS

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS STATE PRISON,

TOGETHER WITH

THE ANNUAL REPORTS

OF

THE WARDEN

AND OTHER OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

OCTOBER 1, 1865.

BOSTON:
WRIGHT & POTTER, STATE PRINTERS,
No. 4 SPRING LANE.
1866.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from

This project is made possible by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services as administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Education through the Office of Commonwealth Libraries

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

INSPECTORS' REPORT.

To His Excellency JOHN A. ANDREW, and the Honorable the Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Inspectors of the State Prison have the honor to submit their Report for the year ending September 30, 1865.

HEALTH.

We gratefully acknowledge the Divine favor in affording exemption from sickness to such an extent in the prison as is shown by the report of the Physician, accompanying this.

CONTRACTS.

The brisk demand for labor, and consequent advance in value of same under the stimulus of war requisitions during 1863, led to the prompt termination of such contracts as were subject to conditions requiring timely notice for so doing.

Bids for the labor of so many of the convicts as were released from contractors by this action were invited by public advertisement, and resulted in securing for the prison the following advantageous offers, viz.:

By the contractor in the whip manufactory, seventy-seven cents per day for seventy-five men, against fifty cents per day, previously paid. By the contractor in iron work, eighty-three cents per day for fifty men, against fifty cents per day, previously paid; and by the brush contractor, one dollar per day for forty men, against sixty cents per day, previously paid.

The furniture contractors had already secured one hundred and fifty men on an unconditional contract with two years yet to run.

The total amount already gained to the treasury of the prison by this advance, exceeds the sum of five thousand dollars.

FINANCES.

The fiscal year of the prison closes with this date, September 30, and the Warden's statement of disbursement and income shows a deficit of \$22,164.75, against \$27,404.17 last September; exhibiting a gratifying gain in favor of the prison. This improvement is more apparent in the table following the Warden's account, at the close of his report, where it will be seen that while the cost for the support per man, is increased \$14.62, the *earnings* per man are increased \$25.84, so that the deficit in the cost of the support of each man is reduced from \$72.95 to \$61.73.

The sum of \$75,000 was appropriated by the last general court for the expenses of prison for year 1865. For the nine months ending at this date, \$65,366.86 has been drawn from the State treasury, and the bills for three months (say \$20,000,) are to be paid. The expenses will, therefore, exceed the estimate by about \$10,000. The sum which it was supposed could be paid into the treasury was \$60,000, but for nine months to date, \$50,106.44 has been realized, and undoubtedly \$18,000 more will be paid at the close of the year, so that the real deficit will be not far from \$17,000. With the anticipated increase of convicts, and the advanced price for the labor of the men, we hope another year to be able to present a still more favorable financial statement.

NAME OF PRISON OFFICERS, RANK AND SALARIES.

NAME OF OFFICER.	Rank.	Annual Salary.
Anthony S. Morss,	Inspector, . . .	\$200 00
Estes Howe,	" . . .	200 00
Edwin Walden,	" . . .	200 00
Gideon Haynes,	Warden, . . .	2,500 00
Benjamin L. Mayhew,	Deputy-Warden, .	1,500 00
William Peirce,	Clerk, . . .	1,200 00
George J. Carleton,	Chaplain, . . .	1,100 00
Amos B. Baneroft,	Physician, . . .	700 00
E. S. Darling,	Turnkey, . . .	800 00
Charles W. Gale,	" . . .	800 00
Almon Hale,	" . . .	800 00
C. F. Houston,	" . . .	800 00
Joseph B. Jepson,	" . . .	800 00
George A. Lounsberry,	" . . .	800 00
E. O. Nichols,	" . . .	800 00
Joshua B. Rea,	" . . .	800 00
Thomas Richardson,	" . . .	800 00
David Sargent,	" . . .	800 00
John E. Shaw,	" . . .	800 00
J. W. Averell,	Watchman, . . .	750 00
Francis Beverstock,	" . . .	750 00
Henry Lowell,	" . . .	750 00
George W. Norris,	" . . .	750 00
Isaac McCausland,	" . . .	750 00
Lucius Patterson,	" . . .	750 00

NAME OF PRISON OFFICERS, RANK AND SALARIES—Concluded.

NAME OF OFFICER.	Rank.	Annual Salary.
Jonas W. Prentiss,	Watchman, . .	\$750 00
Samuel Poor,	" . .	750 00
William B. Ramsell,	" . .	750 00
Moses B. Rogers,	" . .	750 00
J. F. Simonds,	" . .	750 00
Otis E. Patten,	Assistant-Watchman,	600 00
Samuel I. Pearl,	" "	600 00
Edward J. Newhall,	" "	600 00
William H. H. Reed,	" "	600 00
J. M. Wyatt,	" "	600 00
T. C. Vose,	" "	600 00
Abner F. Hopkins,	Gate-Keeper, . .	600 00

CONTRACTORS, ETC.

The names of the contractors, business, number of convicts employed, price per day, and yearly receipts therefor, are as follows:—

CONTRACTORS.	Business.	Time.	Number of Men.	Price per Day.	Receipts.
F. M. Holmes & Co., . . .	Chairs, sofas, &c., . . .	12 months to Sept. 30, 1865, .	151	\$0 50	\$20,661 00
American Whip Company, . .	Whips,	3 months to Dec. 31, 1864, .	42	50	\$1,586 75
American Whip Company, . .	Whips,	9 months to Sept. 30, 1865, .	53	77	8,431 89
					10,018 64
II. S. Doane & Co., . . .	Brushes,	3 months to Dec. 31, 1864, .	23	60	\$774 60
II. S. Doane & Co., . . .	Brushes,	9 months to Sept. 30, 1865, .	30	1 00	6,316 10
					7,090 70
Charles S. Breed & Co., . . .	Stone-cutting,	3 months to Dec. 30, 1864, .	24	60	. . .
Emerson & Co.,	Shoes,	3 months to Dec. 30, 1864, .	29	50	. . .
J. M. Kenney,	Cooperage,	9 $\frac{2}{3}$ months to July 20, 1865, .	35	50	. . .
II. Tucker,	Bedsteads, lamps, &c., . .	5 months to Feb. 28, 1865, .	47	83	. . .
Hiram Tucker & Co., . . .	Bedsteads, lamps, &c., . .	7 months to Sept. 30, 1865, .	77	83	. . .
					\$53,829 60
					7,743 76
					\$61,573 36

In addition to above received in cash from contractors, there has been charged to Expense Department, for services of Convicts, and credited to Labor Department,

Total credit to Labor Department as see account current,

ESTIMATE OF EXPENSES FOR 1866.

The continued variable state of the market obliges the Inspectors to present an uncertain estimate of the sum that will be required to meet the expenses of the prison for 1866, but assuming them to be substantially the same as current year, and that our numbers will be larger, we suggest the sum of \$85,000 as necessary, viz. :—

For transportation of prisoners,	\$250 00
discharged prisoners,	250 00
salaries of officers,	28,500 00
provisions,	26,500 00
clothing, including beds and bedding,	11,000 00
wood, coal and coal dust,	9,000 00
incidental expenses,	6,000 00
repairs and improvements,	3,500 00
	<hr/>
	\$85,000 00

The receipts we estimate at \$75,000.

LIBRARY.

The prison library contains at present fifteen hundred volumes, and appears to be well patronized by the prisoners, and mainly with due regard to the fair treatment of the books. The catalogue shows discrimination in their selection, also, as may be seen by the fact that the library consists of 250 volumes of novels of the Scott, Dickens, Cooper and Edgeworth order mainly; 200 volumes of biographies; 200 volumes of travels; 150 volumes of historical works, besides a fair supply of books of a purely religious and scientific character, also encyclopædias, essays, etc.

Of course novels furnish the largest amount of mental aliment to the men, while books on travels come next in order. Biographical works are well read, and the books of travels and histories show abundant signs of use, while the religious and scientific contributions to the library find very many readers.

THE MORAL AND RELIGIOUS IMPROVEMENT

Of the men appears to receive due attention, as may be seen, also, by the report of the Chaplain.

Teachers in the Sabbath school are gathered from the various religious denominations of the city of Charlestown, and meet

such of the convicts as may be safely trusted to the care of an officer detailed for the purpose, and the Warden or the Deputy-Warden, being also always present. This exercise continues for one hour previous to the public exercises of the day, at which all the prisoners are expected to be present.

The advantages arising from this personal contact with warm-hearted friends, laboring for their best interests, is shown by the pleased expression, the marked attention, the kindling interest, and often by the suffused eye, evincing the possession of sensibilities for which, in ordinary contact, the observer might search their hardened countenances in vain.

It is believed that more religious instruction is given here than is given in any other penal institution in the land, and the good effects are visible and marked, and may be seen in the subdued and tranquil demeanor of the men in the shops, as well as in the more permanent result of a complete reformation evinced in the return of not a few to the privileges and duties of citizenship, where, by their exemplary conduct, they have won the respect and confidence of community.

It is extremely gratifying to us to meet discharged convicts, some of whom have been noted for their bold villainy in times past. Six of these discharged men we have casually met within the past four weeks, "clothed and in their right minds," receiving good wages and demeaning themselves as good citizens, employed generally by the same party in whose workshops in the prison yard they received their first lessons in a valuable trade.

Each of the men above referred to was questioned with a view to extort from him any complaint he might have to make against the prison, its discipline, or its officers; but in each case without result, ascribing, as each one did, all the promise attached to his present and future prospects to the good influences thrown around him while under the care of this institution.

PRISON HOSPITAL.

This important department has for fifteen years past been under the superintendence of officer George A. Lounsberry,*

* Since writing the above the Inspectors regret they are called to announce that owing to a sudden and severe attack of bleeding at the lungs this excellent officer was, on the 28th of October, laid aside from his duties in hospital. We

whose patient attention to the perplexing duties of his office has won the highest respect and esteem of the officers and the affectionate regard of the prisoners. The rooms of his department are always scrupulously neat and orderly, and the air wholesome and pure.

DECREASE OF PRISONERS.

Notwithstanding the close of a protracted and sanguinary war, developing the maddest of human passions, and the return of thousands of soldiers from the various battle-fields of the Republic to their various homes throughout the State, but few of them have yet been received into this prison, and such as have been sentenced here have been, to a considerable extent, of the mercenary class, and but few of them can be said to belong to the noble citizen volunteers of which the principal portion of our "national defenders" was composed. Besides these, we find that during one month of the past year the smallest number of prisoners of all grades was reported since the prison was constructed,—a fact, of course, to be principally ascribed to the unusual activity prevailing in all branches of business.

We heartily agree with the Warden in opinion that whenever practicable in this institution, our returned soldiers should receive prominent attention in adjusting claims for official appointment.

IMPROVEMENTS.

The marked and valuable improvements in and about the prison, which have characterized the administration of the present Warden, have continued unchecked during the past year. The contractor for iron work having taken possession of the "stone shed," has remodelled the same and fitted it up for an iron foundry, which for neatness and adaptation for all the purposes of such work, will not be easily surpassed. By the introduction of heavy and valuable machinery he gives employment to as many men as can be allowed to his depart-

hope it may be but a temporary withdrawal, and that with the Divine blessing upon the kind care received in the family of the Warden, to whose apartments, adjoining the prison, he was tenderly borne from the hospital, where the attack was received, he may yet be restored.

ment with proper regard to the just claims of the other contractors. Not the least among the advantages of the business of this, as well as that of our other contractors for convict labor, is the employment given to our discharged prisoners, before referred to, many of whom becoming expert workmen before leaving the prison, enter at once into permanent and profitable employment, furnished by the same contractors, and thus instead of burdening, they add to the productive property of the State.

We are often obliged to notice the fact that almost all who come to penal service here are without knowledge of any trade, so verifying the saying, "An idle brain is the devil's workshop;" but when discharged with knowledge of a valuable occupation enabling them to earn an honorable and ample livelihood, we conclude that the great tempter has met with an ignominious defeat on his chosen ground.

DISCIPLINE.

The enlightened sentiment of the State in regard to the treatment of convicts has long since given unmistakable directions to the course to be pursued by the officers of our penal institutions.

The Warden of this prison has yielded to this direction as well as to the impulses of a generous nature, in devising and executing plans for the reformation of the convict as well as for ameliorating some of the peculiar hardships to which they have been (in times now happily gone by,) exposed.

In pursuance of these measures, referred to more in detail in reports made by previous Inspectors, it is placed beyond controversy that no injustice has been done to the true and proper discipline of the prison, but on the contrary, the men were never so tractable as now, as the report made of the number of "punishments" shows. In regard to the privilege within a few years accorded of allowing an hour's promiscuous social intercourse in the prison yard, two or three times during the year, so far from any perversion of this much-esteemed relaxation having been shown, it is demonstrated that while the most desirable *sanitary* results are attained, it is also observed that not a single case of forfeiture of any privilege has been called

for by the abuse of this humane step; one prisoner remarking to an officer, after the last occasion of this kind, "This has been worth more than fifty dollars to me, for I have got quit of an old grudge against a comrade by an hour's talk, which would have caused years of rankling hatred, and most probably a fight when we got out."

Notwithstanding these alleviations of prison life, there are not wanting evidences of the terrible hardships to which the "way of the transgressor" has led him, and one hour's compulsory confinement in his narrow cell would be enough to satisfy the most skeptical of the horror of his punishment; but the penalty becomes appalling when it results in the gradual undermining of the mental faculties, and as the fulfilment of his term of imprisonment draws nigh to find the convict just entering the horrors of a thicker darkness.

Nothing more painful reaches the Inspector's eye than this not uncommon spectacle; nor do we yield to any "sickly sentiment" when we demand yet greater mental and physical relaxation even than is now permitted.

The beneficial results of short, familiar addresses occasionally, given on such topics of a scientific and practical character as are calculated to awaken the intellect, promote thought, and divert the mind from brooding, and the imagination from vicious excitement, would be no less apparent here than in the localities where, under the vaunted "Irish system," this privilege is enjoyed with such admirable results.

ESCAPES.

Five men have, within as many months, regained their liberty by "breaking prison" or scaling the walls. These men had by good behavior for a long period of time secured, to a remarkable degree, the confidence of the officers, and had been employed in various labors in and around the prison. Two of them had each been deprived of an arm, and it seemed incredible that any attempt to escape by these men should be made, or if made, that it should be attended with success, but by securing the aid of a third party, a sound-limbed man, they made "success a duty." The remaining two, who were employed in getting up steam for the workshops, requiring a very early

attendance, even before the watchmen stationed on the walls came on duty, escaped by sealing the wall behind the shop, the first one in consequence of the culpable neglect of his duty by the officer in charge; and in the other instance by an ingenious and plausible pretext, the officer was thrown off his guard just long enough to enable his nimble charge, by the same method, to escape.

The term of imprisonment of most of these escaped men had well nigh expired.

Persevering efforts to recover them have not been wanting, but as yet without success.

This misfortune has had the effect to elicit greater vigilance throughout all the departments of the institution.

YOUTHFUL CONVICTS.

The increasing number of convicts of a more youthful character than heretofore presents a sad view to the Inspectors, and claims our observation.

These convictions are largely through the Suffolk County courts, and during a portion of the present season the ages of these convictions averaged less than twenty-five years. The transfer of parental authority to the pernicious influences and corrupt teachings of the public streets, is doing its legitimate work, and renders necessary the vigorous exercise of every instrumentality calculated to awaken such faithless and unnatural parents and guardians to some just appreciation of the consequences of their ignominious retreat from the responsibilities of providing for the moral as well as for the physical nature of the youth committed to their charge. "What can you expect," said a convict to us last Sabbath, "but a felon's cell for one thrown into our city streets from boyhood?"

COMPARISON.

A brief visit by the Warden and Chairman of Board of Inspectors to other penal institutions during the present summer, enabled us to compare other systems and prisons with ours. A visit to the "Model Prison" of British America, located at Kingston, C. W., was first made.

With all the experience of the most enlightened systems yet

known, to guide them in the construction of their main edifice and shops, yet excepting the symmetrical and beautiful proportions of the main edifice and amply spacious workshops, but little else seemed commendable in design or execution.

With a natural foundation formed by a quarry of solid limestone, it was thought best to excavate several feet into the solid rock before laying the foundation, and by so doing an opportunity of securing the best possible sewerage to the deep and rapid river, upon the banks of which the prison is so favorably located, was lost.

The ventilation was also a subject of grave objection, and while the general plan like ours, of "wings" radiating from an octagonal centre might have allowed an ample supply of those prime essentials, light and air, yet both were to a remarkable extent refused admittance. The cells of this prison, to the number of twelve hundred, were so narrow that the convict could only occupy it by turning up his mattress, which occupies the entire breadth of his narrow house.

The nature of the stone which forms the foundation and all the superstructure of the buildings to absorb dampness, and under the influence of atmospheric or artificial heat to cause this dampness to exude, led us to suppose the entire prison had undergone a thorough "washing."

Here we found the requisite conditions for fever, and here we found the disease itself to an extent which would have, with us, required immediate and radical reform.

The venerable and experienced Warden and other officers of this institution manifested an agreeable interest in opening its various departments to our inspection, and the humane and unaffected kindness manifested by the officers towards the inmates of their populous convict community, numbering nearly one thousand, showed in every lineament how much could be done to mitigate the exceeding misfortune of their unfavorably constructed temporary abode. At this place we were agreeably surprised to meet the New York State Commission for examination of the various penal institutions of the land, and to hear from them the warmest commendation of our own institution and system; allowing themselves to express the opinion that it was not surpassed by any they had visited.

This opinion has recently, on their return from an extensive tour of inspection, been reiterated most emphatically.

We are unwilling to close the comparison allowed by even so brief a visit without referring to a penal institution in New York State, presided over by a warden of rare experience and skill in the management of felons of all grades. The edifice, so beautiful for situation, was also a design of this warden, and erected under his personal superintendence, and reflects, as do all the buildings erected for workshops, great credit to his architectural skill and knowledge of adaptation.

The opportunity afforded here of witnessing a prison under the operation of exact and rigid methods was not lost upon our observation, nor did we come away with confident purpose of inviting the return in our prison to the old paths here so mechanically trod. Carlyle describes the movements of a British soldier accurately enough to set a machinist into ecstacy; but it fails to convince others of the value of this admirable discipline in other than military ranks; and it pleased us to find this admirable disciplinarian yet willing to acquiesce in the wisdom of our system in its general details, and if we are favored by a visit to this institution, as he led us to confidently expect, we have no reason to doubt that a candid disposition united with such a capacious heart will lead him to adopt some of those measures which in theory he was ready to allow, and which in their practical working, here shown, he will admit to be worthy of imitation in the extensive and populous institution over which he has so long presided.

A PROPOSITION.

The Inspectors “unlearn” some things, while acquiring knowledge of other things in their official career.

The view often entertained, that they may find frequent occasion to seek the executive clemency in behalf of many of the miserable men over whose interests they become in an important sense overseers, often becomes extremely modified, and only in rare instances do they find the public welfare, or the good of the convict liable to be promoted by their interposition to secure his pardon.

Prisoners are often found whose good behavior and seeming

penitence, would justify a trial once more of "the sweets of liberty;" but the risk of an unconditional pardon of the convict, is such as justly to deter the executive from using this function with great freedom.

Now under some such license as is granted under the well-known English "Ticket-of-Leave" System, the executive clemency may not be abused; certainly not while the period of time his "release during good behavior"—which is the substance of the English System—may continue, which release may be revoked on the instant his misconduct and abuse of his liberty and privilege is discovered to have taken place.

There are many arguments in favor of such a measure as is here hinted at, which will be presented more fully when the subject shall be presented for the consideration of the legislature soon to convene.

In closing our Report we have only to add that our prison system and management so heartily eulogized by the past and present Inspectors (simply because we cannot otherwise do justice to our convictions,) yet contains ample room for improvement; and under the present able management it is likely to receive that attention which the magnitude of the interests involved to the cause of our common humanity seems to demand, and as fast as the increasing knowledge imparted by experience and the light of social science shall warrant in so doing.

Nor in justice can we omit to add that much of the excellent working of our system should be attributed to the enlightened and hearty coöperation of the fearless Deputy-Warden, as well as to the industrious Clerk; to the earnest Chaplain as well as to the attentive Physician; to the trusty Turnkey as well as to the faithful watchman; to each and to all of whom we have been constantly indebted for valuable assistance in the prosecution of our labors.

ANTHONY S. MORSS,
ESTES HOWE,
EDWIN WALDEN,

Inspectors Mass. State Prison.

WARDEN'S REPORT.

To His Excellency JOHN A. ANDREW, Governor, and Honorable Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts :

GENTLEMEN,—In accordance with a custom adopted in 1828, and continued up to the present time, the Warden has the honor to present the following statement of the general affairs of the State Prison.

There is much cause for gratitude to an overruling Providence for the good degree of health that has prevailed the past year. I have to report five deaths out of a population of 480, a trifle more than one per cent.—about our average mortality. The first, a man who was arraigned for murder in the first degree, but being, in the opinion of the physicians who examined him, in the last stages of consumption, he was permitted to plead guilty to manslaughter, and sentenced to twenty years imprisonment. He died on the 7th of last December, just three years from the day he entered the prison. The second, a negro, here for the third time, who had spent most of his life in this and other prisons, died from hemorrhage of the lungs. The third was serving his fourth, a life sentence, here, and although but thirty-two years old, he had passed fourteen years, the last five in close confinement, in this prison. The fourth died from inflammation of the bowels, and depression of spirits consequent upon his failing to obtain a pardon. The fifth, a man sixty-seven years old, who was serving his fourth sentence here, who died from a general breaking up of the system.

I am happy to report a continuance of the usual good order, obedience and industry which have so long prevailed in this establishment; it is believed that no year of its history will

show a better state of things in this respect. No cases of violent outbreaking of ungoverned passions have taken place, but good order and an almost uniform observance of the rules of the institution have prevailed. This, I have no doubt, is the fruit of the experiment inaugurated two years ago, and continued since, of allowing the prisoners, occasionally, an hour of unrestricted intercourse and recreation together in the yard ; no act within the last ten years has had so great an influence upon the discipline, and the practical result has been the reduction of reports and punishments nearly fifty per cent. We were not without fear that some would be found among the number who would abuse this, as well as every attempt to improve their condition, but I have always acted upon the principle that they were to be governed, not in reference to the few bad ones among them, but as a whole. A measure that would evidently benefit and improve the majority was not to be set aside or discontinued because a few might abuse it. I am happy to be able to state that our fears were groundless ; not the slightest impropriety has been observed upon either occasion, and nothing but good to all parties has thus far resulted from it.

In view of the extraordinary high price of every article used in the prison, and the great reduction in our numbers, the lowest for sixteen years, we cannot expect a very flattering report of our finances. We had hoped that, with the close of the war, the prices of food, clothing and fuel would decline, and based our estimated expenses for the last year upon such a supposition. I regret to say that our anticipations were not realized ; the war prices have ruled up to the present time. In point of fact, some articles are even higher than they were at the close of the war. An examination of our affairs will, I am confident, show that the strictest economy has been practised ; that our earnings have been more per man, and our expenses in some of the departments not in excess of previous years. Our receipts for the year were \$62,801.11, and our expenses, \$84,965.86, leaving a deficit of \$22,164.75.

As connected with the expense of supporting our prison, I have prepared a table of some articles, with the cost four years since and (Sept. 30,) at the present time :—

ARTICLES.	1861.	1865.
Hard coal, per ton,	\$5 00	\$14 00
Cumberland coal, per ton,	7 00	12 00
Sheeting, per yard,	10	34
Shirting, per yard,	10	34
Red and blue satinets, per yard,	50	1 50
Sole leather, per pound,	21	39
Upper leather, per pound,	19	23
Codfish, per pound,	03	07½
Flour, per barrel,	5 50	8 50
Indian meal, per bushel,	69	1 10
Rye meal, per bushel,	75	1 12
Molasses, per gallon,	26	65
Beef, per pound,	04⅜	08
Pork, per pound,	07½	14
Potatoes, per bushel,	32	75
Peas, per bushel,	90	2 00
Beans, per bushel,	1 50	2 25
Malt, per bushel,	1 50	3 00
Pepper, per pound,	11	40
Vinegar, per gallon,	10	32
Salt, fine, per bag,	1 85	3 38
Salt, coarse fine, per bag,	1 75	2 12
Lime, per cask,	75	2 25

With the return of peace we anticipate a renewal of our former prosperity, pecuniarily, and hope that the time is not far distant when we can again report the institution as self-sustaining. Desirable as this is, I trust no one wishes it to be brought

about at the expense of the discipline or improvement of the men. Reformation is the first and most important consideration connected with this institution. Nothing is gained, no matter how much a man may be made to suffer, if he leaves the prison unimproved, or no better than he entered it. A large proportion of our prisoners (about eighty per cent.,) have no trades when received, and the facilities we have for giving them a good and useful one, is one of the advantages we possess over almost every other prison in the country. Sofa and chair-making, carving and upholstering, moulding and casting, blacksmithing and finishing, with whip and brush-making, are trades at which ready employment and good wages can be obtained upon their discharge from the prison, and it is gratifying to know that so many of them do avail themselves of the instruction received here, and become honest, industrious and thriving citizens.

Many of our discharged prisoners have enlisted in the Union army during the past four years, and, so far as my knowledge extends, no class has a better or nobler record; many of them have atoned for past errors with their blood. There has not been a battle of note, from "Big Bethel" to the surrender of Johnson and his army, in which this institution has not been represented. I know of a dozen, at least, who have won commissions, from lieutenants to majors, by bravery on the field of battle; and while writing this paragraph, I am interrupted by music and a procession of citizens and soldiers who are going forth to welcome home a company of veterans who served three years and reënlisted, whose captain spent five years in this institution. He was among the first to enroll his name in the company, immediately upon his discharge from this prison. He has served with honor, and by heroic deeds washed out the stain that sullied his reputation, and he stands to-day a man redeemed—a hero, entitled not only to our warmest praise, but to all the rights, privileges and consideration enjoyed by any of our citizens.

In a former Report I have alluded to the inequality of sentences, and the apparent necessity of a change in the penalties attached to certain crimes. I beg most earnestly again to call your attention to this subject.

I fear that our judges do not always realize the great responsibility resting upon them when passing sentence upon criminals.

Ten years is as easily said or written as two; and yet what a difference! The one but an episode; the other, in many cases, comprises a period the most desirable and important in the lifetime of a man. It is not the severity, but the *certainty* of the sentence, that prevents crime.

Many of our prisoners commence their criminal career by taking small articles, easily converted into cash at the pawn-brokers and old junk shops. Could these nurseries of crime be in some way controlled so as to prevent the evils now attending them, a great and important step would be taken towards the suppression of crime among the youth growing up in our midst. "Do away with the receiver and the thief's occupation is gone," is the unanimous testimony of those who get into prison. But few would steal, if unable to turn their plunder into cash, and just in proportion as you can render that difficult do you remove the motive for committing crime.

We have instances, not unfrequently either, where imprisonment and our discipline may be successful up to a certain point, beyond which a reaction may take place, and evil results the consequence. The wisdom of the most upright judge cannot foresee or guard against such contingencies; the governor has, therefore, very properly been invested by the constitution with the power to grant pardons. The importance of this can hardly be realized, and its effects upon our discipline, if not judiciously exercised, deleterious in the extreme. I quote from a former Report:—

"The too frequent use of the pardoning power has a very great influence upon the discipline of the prison. There can be no doubt, that just in proportion as expectations of release are removed, is the prisoner's happiness advanced; consequently, the less the number of pardons, the greater always the contentment, and the better our hopes of good order, cheerful submission, and of moral, mental and religious improvement. The most salutary ingredient of punishment is its certainty. It is now considered a great hardship by the prisoners, if they are kept here after the first half of their sentence has expired; and it is rare that a man is pardoned who does not leave behind him those who have served longer for the same, or perhaps a much lighter offence; so it must be apparent to all that any but pleasant feelings would be engendered in the bosoms of those who remain, by such an act of clemency. They have the impression that no one is pardoned

but through the influence of the officers of the institution ; consequently the discipline suffers from what they consider favoritism.

“The welfare of the prison demands that great caution should be used in this matter, and my own impression is, if I may be pardoned the suggestion, that the executive clemency, to be effective, should be confined to such cases as have by their good conduct, industry and obedience, given unmistakable evidence of reformation, or where evident injustice was done them upon their trial.”

Time and experience have served to convince me that the views therein expressed are correct. Pardons, to be effective, ought not to be easily obtained, and the interests of the institution demand that great caution should be observed in granting them. In the last five years, 615 prisoners have been committed to this prison, and 167 have been discharged by pardon ; a percentage sufficient to excite the hopes of all, and cause an infliction of mental suffering upon the applicants, while in suspense, beyond all calculation. It would be expecting too much to suppose, under any circumstances, that mistakes would not sometimes occur ; in order to guard against them, and appearances so liable in a place of this kind to be deceptive, I would recommend the adoption of a rule, or the passage of a law, by which all pardons should be granted upon condition that the recipient should not again be convicted of any crime against the laws of this State. Or, in other words, the reconviction and sentence of a man to this institution, should revoke and render null and void any pardon previously granted him by the governor of this Commonwealth.

The fear some of our people entertained, that in consequence of the change in the condition of the negro in the South, the North would be overrun, and our work-houses and prisons filled with them, has not been realized, so far as this institution is concerned.

Showing the number of Negroes committed to this Prison each Year for the last Ten Years.

1856,	.	.	.	.	7	1861,	.	.	.	.	21
1857,	.	.	.	.	10	1862,	.	.	.	.	7
1858,	.	.	.	.	9	1863,	.	.	.	.	5
1859,	.	.	.	.	9	1864,	.	.	.	.	5
1860,	.	.	.	.	10	1865,	.	.	.	.	2

Prison discipline is still a question of great importance; the best method of treating criminals is a problem that the wisest and most philanthropic in this and other countries have not yet been able to solve. A personal examination of many of the prisons in this country and Canada, and of the various theories and systems in operation at home and abroad, has failed to satisfy me that they possess any superiority over ours. The Massachusetts system comprises, in my opinion, all that is desirable, valuable or elevating to be found in any of the others, discarding the many evils connected therewith.

The question may be asked, What constitutes the Massachusetts system, and how does it differ from others? Up to 1785, there was no place in this State for the reception and confinement of convicts, except the common jails. On the 14th of March, of that year, an Act was passed "providing that the island within the harbor of Boston, commonly called Castle Island, shall be a place for the reception and secure confinement of all such persons as shall be sentenced to confinement and hard labor for the term of their natural lives, or for any shorter space of time." It was very soon discovered that some more suitable place would have to be provided for the purpose, and in 1803 an Act was passed by the general court to build a State prison, and about five acres of land, including flats, was purchased in Charlestown, for the purpose of erecting a penitentiary "for the reformation as well as punishment of offenders;" thus early taking the ground that something beyond the mere punishment of criminals ought to be considered; and in 1804-5 the old prison was erected. It consisted of two wings, each 100 feet long, 44 wide, and 38 high, with a centre 46 feet in height. The building contained ninety cells, intended to accommodate from four to sixteen in each. Competent judges pronounced it to be among the strongest and best built prisons in the world.

Go back to the earliest ages, and it will be found that improvement in the building of prisons and the treatment of criminals, have kept pace with Christianity; an examination of the subject at any period will show the degree of civilization reached by the people. Although the prison of 1805 was far in advance of any other in the world, yet it was not satisfactory to Massachusetts. The plan of placing from four to

sixteen—young and old, the novice and hardened criminal—together in a room at night, proved to be a great mistake. It was very soon ascertained that reformation under such circumstances was out of the question. Not only were the lash and shower-bath in general use at this time, but various other eccentric and somewhat unique methods were frequently resorted to as modes of punishment. To wit, December 4th, 1811, “it was ordered that a gallows be erected in the prison yard, at an elevation of twenty feet, on which the said prisoners (seven in number,) shall be placed, and sit with a rope round their necks for one hour, once a week, for three successive weeks; that for sixty days they wear an iron collar and a chain, as the warden shall direct; that they eat at a table by themselves; and that they wear a yellow cap, with asses’ ears, for sixty days, &c., &c. This sentence to be read in the hall at breakfast, in presence of all the prisoners.”

In the same year, Governor Strong, in making his official visit, and whilst passing through the dining-hall while the convicts were at dinner, directed the warden to furnish the convicts each with a pint of *cider*. The propriety of such liberality, in the minds of the people of to-day, would be somewhat questionable.

On the 15th of February, 1826, an Act was passed for the erection of a new prison, to contain 304 solitary cells, to be 7 feet long, 7 feet high, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ wide, the object being to separate the prisoners at meal times and at night. This prison was finished and occupied October 3d, 1828, and the present discipline, in a crude form, established. In 1850, another wing was added, containing 150 cells, each 8 feet long, 7 feet high, and $4\frac{1}{2}$ wide. This is without doubt the best prison in the world. The interior of one of the wings of the old prison was also taken out, and one hundred cells of the same size put into it, and the octagon, containing the kitchen and chapel, was erected at the same time. For many suggestions in regard to the building, and the discipline up to this date, the institution was indebted to the late Rev. Louis Dwight, for many years secretary and principal agent of the Boston Prison Discipline Society, an association that did much to alleviate the condition of the prisoner, and to enlighten and educate the people of Massachusetts upon this subject.

Although the shower-bath and its accompaniments had for many years been dispensed with, yet the lash was in use up almost to the time the present Warden assumed the management of the institution, and the attempt to manage and control these men without the use of it, was thought by many whose philanthropy could not be questioned, to be an experiment not likely to prove successful. After almost eight years of trial, I should now as soon think of returning to the temporary gallows already alluded to, as to the lash, or any other punishment, save solitary confinement, or the deprivation of some privilege they enjoy.

Prisoners sentenced to this institution are brought from the different jails by the warden or one of his officers; the actual expenses incurred are paid from the prison funds; the average cost for the last ten years has been about one dollar and fifty cents per man. When received at the prison, the convicts are taken immediately to the bath-room, where they bathe, are shaved, and have their hair cut. They are then provided with a new suit of clothes made of blue satinet, stout shoes, two pairs of stockings, two shirts, two pair of drawers, undershirts and a towel, all marked with their names; they are then taken to their cell to remain till their "solitary" has expired, usually one day. Before being placed at work, they are instructed by the Deputy-Warden in regard to the rules; every explanation is mildly, carefully and understandingly made to them; they are then taken to the shop. In their cell they will find the printed rules, an iron bedstead which turns up by the side of the wall, a palmleaf mattress and pillow with cotton sheets, pillow slip, blankets and spread; a small table and stool, a shelf, Bible, catalogue of the books in the library, a bottle of vinegar, pepper, salt, knife and fork, and spoon. And this is to be their home for one year, or life according to the term of their sentence. In the course of a day or two, the convict is sent for by the Warden who inquires into his past history, his parents and family, counselling and advising him as to his future course, encouraging and assuring him of good and kind treatment so long as he shall deserve it; an interview that rarely ends without bringing the tears into the eyes of the most hardened, and the formation of resolutions which have a strong influence upon their future lives. The Chaplain, also, takes an early opportunity to converse with them,

in which he endeavors to impress upon their minds the same ideas, with such other suggestions as he thinks necessary.

In the workshops, which are large, pleasant and well ventilated, the windows filled with plants and flowers which they are permitted to cultivate, he is received by the officer in charge ; one who is selected for his peculiar fitness for the responsible situation ; one who can govern himself, kind-hearted, straightforward, mild and firm in his intercourse with them, listening patiently to all their real or imaginary grievances, advising and encouraging them. Harsh or irritating language is not permitted under any circumstances. Should he violate any of the rules, he is called up by the officer, who quietly points out the error and cautions him against a repetition ; if it occurs he is left out of his cell at night when the others are locked up, and his case is reported to the Deputy-Warden by the officer ; an opportunity is given him to make any explanation or excuse he may have ; if satisfactory he is allowed to go to his room ; if not, and it is his first offence, he is dismissed with a reprimand. For the second offence, he is placed in a dark cell, (our only punishment for the last eight years,) without furniture, save a board and blanket and the necessary buckets ; here he remains until he asks to come out ; an officer is always within hearing of him, night and day. Nothing humiliating is ever required of him ; a simple intimation that the offence shall not be repeated is all that is necessary.

Our commutation law has a great influence upon our discipline ; a law by which sentences for less than three years are reduced one day a month for good behavior ; for three, and less than seven, two days a month ; for seven, and less than ten, four days a month ; for ten and upwards, five days a month. Every day that they pass in solitary as a punishment, is deducted from the good time they have or may gain, with the further knowledge that all may be lost should their conduct deserve it. One not familiar with the subject would be surprised to know how much they think of one day's reduction, even in a long sentence. Very many are sent to this and other prisons for crimes committed in a momentary passion ; an uncontrollable temper has been the ruin of thousands ; a prisoner knowing that his confinement will be extended by any outbreak of the kind, will strive hard to curb it ; although he may find it difficult at first, yet

he is pretty certain to succeed in the end ; and at the expiration of every month, he has an additional motive for good conduct, as all that he has gained may be jeopardized by yielding ; this discipline, continued through a series of years, must have a good effect upon the man ; he gradually and almost imperceptibly acquires perfect control over himself—a habit that will not desert him when he goes forth into the world again.

Our daily routine may not be uninteresting here. In summer, the prisoners leave their cells at five o'clock in the morning for the workshops, where they wash, &c., work till half-past six and then return to their rooms for breakfast ; thirty-five minutes is allowed for this purpose ; they then repair to the chapel ; the daily service consists of reading the scripture with occasionally some suitable remarks from the Chaplain, prayer, and singing by the choir comprised of convicts ; returning to the workshops they remain till twelve o'clock ; an hour is allowed them for dinner, which, like their breakfast is eaten in their rooms. At six, P. M., their work is finished for the day. They are shaved twice a week, hair cut once a quarter, bathe once a week, in summer, those who prefer it, in the salt water, in a large tank or basin capable of accommodating from twenty-five to thirty at one time, into which the tide flows. At these times all restraint is thrown off, and for fifteen or twenty minutes they are allowed to enjoy themselves by diving, swimming, and such games and gambols as suit their taste. On Sunday they leave their cells at seven o'clock in the morning, going to the workshops to wash themselves, returning take their breakfast, and are locked up till ten o'clock ; at that hour our Sabbath school commences ; we have usually from sixty to eighty in attendance. As we are not able to accomodate all, preference is more particularly given to those who are unable to read, who are taught. At eleven, services are held in the chapel closing at twelve ; they then take their dinner and supper with them and are locked up for the remainder of the day. On holidays, we have services in the chapel, extra rations and an hour of unrestricted intercourse together in the yard ; at such times they engage in dancing, singing, foot-ball and such other games as suit their fancy.

Newspapers are not allowed, except such religious ones as the Chaplain chooses to distribute among them, but the

monthly publications are. They can change their library books three times a week; the prison is lighted so that they can see to read till eight o'clock, in winter; at nine all retire. It is perfectly ventilated, and comfortably warmed in the coldest weather. That our sanitary regulations are complete, can be inferred from the fact that we have not had a case of fever for *twelve years*.

Tasks and overwork are prohibited by law; yet very few are discharged, who have been faithful, that do not receive from their employers, from five to one hundred and fifty dollars; and many a one has been made happy by the knowledge that his industry was indirectly providing for his destitute family outside.

When a prisoner's time expires, he is provided with a good suit of clothes throughout, and from three to five dollars; he is then taken in charge, if he desires it, by the State Agent for Discharged Convicts—who has previously visited him to ascertain his wishes—sent to his friends, or provided with a home till a situation is obtained for him, tools furnished him to commence work, and every effort made to give him a good start. At any time after, should he get out of employment, or his family in want, he has only to apply to the Agent to obtain the necessary assistance. This agency I think one of the most important of our State charities, and the Agent, Mr. J. M. Peck, one whose whole heart is enlisted in the cause.

To receive these outcasts with kindness; fan into a flame, if possible, the slightest spark of humanity remaining with them; advise, encourage and improve them, mentally and physically; give all a good trade; satisfy them that it is for their *interest*, if nothing more, to behave well; strive in every way possible to elevate and restore them useful members of society again, is the Massachusetts system of to-day. Its success has exceeded the anticipations of its most ardent supporters, and such as those not familiar with the facts, would hardly credit.

The inspectors of the Eastern Penitentiary, Pennsylvania, (which penitentiary is now, I believe, the only representative of the separate system in the country,) in their last report published some interesting statistics, with a request "that prisons on the congregate plan would contribute like information." We very cheerfully, on our part, comply with their request.

The following paragraph is also taken from the same report :
“In the present report it will be shown that the mortality under the separate system, in this penitentiary, and under the congregate system in the Charlestown, Massachusetts, State Prison—the best probably of congregate prisons in its administration—is so nearly equal as to forever set at rest the assumed superiority in this respect, of the congregate plan of imprisonment.”

Where the information was obtained that led to such conclusions, is a mystery. Certainly not from any reports or documents ever issued from this institution. The following table *will*, I trust, forever set at rest the assumed superiority in this respect of the congregate plan of imprisonment.

The Eastern Penitentiary went into operation October 25th, 1829. Our new prison was finished, occupied, and the present system adopted, on the 3d of October, 1828, commencing with 290 prisoners ; a number equal to four years commitments. I have introduced those 290 for the purpose of accounting for every prisoner subjected to the present discipline. It will be observed, therefore, that our statistics cover a period of about forty-two years, six more than the Eastern Penitentiary.

Exhibiting the number of Convicts at the Eastern Penitentiary, Penn., since its opening, Oct. 25, 1829, to Dec. 31, 1864, and in the Massachusetts State Prison from Oct. 3, 1828, to Oct. 1, 1865, the number pardoned, died, served their time out, now in prison, average time served, &c.

	Eastern Penitentiary.	Massachusetts State Prison.
Whole number received,	5,063	4,960*
Discharged by expiration of sentence, . . .	3,715 or 73 per ct.	3,674 or 74 $\frac{1}{4}$ per ct.
Pardoned,	671 or 13 $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent.	643 or 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.
Average time served of pardoned, . . .	1 yr. 10 mos. 5 ds.	4 years 5 days.
Pardoned and subsequently re-convicted, . .	6 per cent.	1 $\frac{1}{10}$ per cent.
Died,	279 or 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	169 or 3 $\frac{2}{5}$ per cent.
Average time served,	2 years 4 days.	3 yrs. 8 mos. 18 dys.
Committed suicide, . . . . .	.11	.5
Escaped and removed in various ways, . .	.62	.81
Second comers,	413 or 8 $\frac{1}{7}$ per cent.	456 or 9 $\frac{1}{5}$ per cent.
Sentenced less than two years, . . .	1,878 or 37 per ct.	1,160 or 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ per ct.
Served their time out,	1,608 or 85 per ct.	1,113 or 96 per cent.
Pardoned,	146 or 7 per cent.	20 or 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.
Average time served,	7 months 9 days.	9 months 23 days.
Died,	27 or 1 $\frac{2}{3}$ per cent.	14 or 1 $\frac{1}{5}$ per cent.
Average time served,	8 months 29 days.	6 months.
Now in prison,	80 or 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	11 or 3 per cent.
Sentenced from two to three years, . . .	1,307 or 26 per ct.	1,214 or 22 $\frac{1}{3}$ per ct.
Served their time out,	1,003 or 76 per ct.	1,069 or 88 per cent.
Pardoned,	169 or 13 per cent.	84 or 7 per cent.
Average time served,	1 year 19 days.	1 yr. 2 mos. 25 dys.
Died,	58 or 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	25 or 2 per cent.
Average time served,	1 yr. 2 mos. 7 dys.	1 yr. 3 mos. 17 dys.
Now in prison,	65 or 20 per cent.	40 or 10 per cent.
Sentenced from three to five years, . . .	1,240 or 24 $\frac{1}{4}$ per ct.	1,318 or 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ per ct.
Served their time out,	861 or 69 per cent.	1,009 or 76 $\frac{2}{3}$ per ct.
Pardoned,	173 or 14 per cent.	160 or 12 $\frac{1}{6}$ per cent.
Average time served,	1 yr. 8 mos. 26 dys.	2 yrs. 1 mo. 16 dys.
Died,	102 or 8 $\frac{1}{5}$ per cent.	35 or 2 $\frac{3}{5}$ per cent.
Average time served,	1 yr. 8 mos. 22 dys.	2 yrs. 10 mos. 17 dys.
Now in prison,	77 or 23 $\frac{2}{3}$ per cent.	95 or 25 per cent.
Sentenced from five to ten years, . . .	491 or 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.	849 or 17 $\frac{1}{8}$ per cent.
Served their time out,	213 or 43 per cent.	458 or 54 per cent.
Pardoned,	133 or 27 per cent.	212 or 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.
Average time served, . . . . .	.3 years.	.4 year.
Died,	69 or 14 per cent.	38 or 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.
Average time served,	2 yrs. 8 mos. 1 day.	3 yrs. 5 mos. 14 dy.

* In consequence of an error in the numbering of the convicts in one of the old volumes, a mistake was made in the whole number as given in a table in the Annual Report of 1861.

TABLE—Continued.

	Eastern Penitentiary.	Massachusetts State Prison.
Now in prison,	66 or 13½ per cent.	118 or 31 per cent.
Sentenced to ten years and upwards,	147 or 3 per cent.	238 or 4¾ per cent.*
Served their time out,	30 or 20 per cent.	42 or 17½ per cent.
Pardoned,	50 or 34 per cent.	76 or 32 per cent.
Average time served,	5 yrs. 5 mos. 18 dys.	. 7 years 11 days.
Died,	23 or 15 per cent.	28 or 11¾ per cent.
Average time served,	4 yrs. 10 mos. 4 dys.	5 yrs. 3 mos. 4 dys.
Now in prison,	37 or 11½ per cent.	. 75 or 20 per cent.
Average time served,	4 yrs. 1 mos. 7 dys.	3 yrs. 8 mos. 23 dys.
Now in prison served five years and upwards,	— —	. . . . . 58
Now in prison served ten years and upwards,	— —	. . . . . 7
Sentenced for life, . . . . .	. . . . None.	183 or 3¾ per cent.
Pardoned, . . . . .	. . . . None.	. 95 or 50 per cent.
Average time served, . . . . .	. . . . None.	7 yrs. 9 mos. 2 dys.
Died, . . . . .	. . . . None.	28 or 15½ per cent.
Average time served, . . . . .	. . . . None.	7 yrs. 2 mos. 7 dys.
Now in prison, . . . . .	. . . . None.	. 40 or 10 per cent.
Average time served, . . . . .	. . . . None.	4 yrs. 10 mos. 11 ds.
Sentenced to five years and upwards,	638 or 12½ per cent.	1,087 or 22 per ct.*
Served their time out,	243 or 38 per cent.	500 or 45 per cent.
Average time served,	6 yrs. 5 mos. 10 dys.	. 6 years 4 months.
Pardoned,	183 or 29 per cent.	290 or 26¾ per cent.
Average time served,	4 yrs. 5 mos. 28 dys.	4 yrs. 8 mos. 9 dys.
Died,	92 or 14½ per cent.	. 66 or 6 per cent.
Average time served,	3 yrs. 2 mos. 12 dys.	4 yrs. 3 mos. 16 dys.
Now in prison for five years and upwards,	103 or 31¾ per cent.	233 or 64 per cent.
Average time served,	3 yrs. 8 mos. 15 dys.	3 yrs. 5 mos. 6 dys.
Served ten years and upwards of all rec'd,	30 or ½ of 1 per ct.	102 or 2½ per cent.
Whole number now in prison, . . . . .	. . . . 325	. . . . 397
Average time served,	3 yrs. 2 mos. 5 dys.	. . . . 3 years.
The longest time served on one sentence,	17 years 3 months.	. 20 years 2 months.
The next longest, . . . . .	— —	. . . . 15 years.
The longest time served by one man on a series of sentences,	— —	. 34 years 2 months.
The next longest, . . . . .	— —	. . . . 34 years.
The longest time served by any one now in prison on one sentence,	— —	. 17 years 8 months.
The next longest,	— —	. 14 years 4 months.
Received last year, . . . . .	. . . . 150	. . . . 129
Average sentence,	2 yrs 5 mos. 15 dys.	5 yrs. 3 mos. 27 dys.
Aggregate amount of sentences, . . . . .	. 13,690 years.	17,599 years 7 mos.
Average sentence,	2 yrs. 8 mos 13 dys.	3 yrs. 6 mos. 17 dys.

* Not including life sentences.

The comparisons in the foregoing table are so decidedly in our favor in almost every particular as to render it unnecessary to add another word ; yet, I cannot forbear calling attention to the mortality of the two prisons. In the Eastern Penitentiary, five and a half, in ours, three and two-fifths per cent. ; average time served of those who died in the Eastern, two years and four days—in ours three years, eight months and eighteen days ; so that taking into consideration the time served, our percentage is really less than one-half of theirs. They have had none sentenced for life ; we have had one hundred and eighty-three, or two-fifths per cent. of our whole number, the exact percentage of our deaths ; these must necessarily be added to the deaths or pardons. Again, the average sentences in the Eastern has been two years, eight months and thirteen days ; in ours, three years, six months and seventeen days, counting for the life sentences only the time actually served ; that is to say, the seven received for life the past year, add only one year, ten months and two days, to the aggregate amount of sentences.

The usual statement of disbursements and income, and tables of statistics are appended with the reports of the Chaplain and Physician.

In conclusion, I desire to renew my acknowledgments to the honorable Board of Inspectors for their valuable assistance and cheerful co-operation upon all occasions. To the Deputy-Warden, Mr. Benjamin L. Mayhew, and the Clerk, William Peiree, Esq., I am particularly indebted for the untiring zeal they have ever manifested in advancing the interests of the institution, and to the other officers for the fidelity they have displayed in the discharge of their various duties the past year.

Respectfully submitted.

GIDEON HAYNES,

Warden of State Prison.

Dr.	DISBURSEMENTS AND INCOME, MASSACHUSETTS STATE PRISON for the year ending Sept. 30, 1865.	Cr.	
For Transportation of Prisoners from Jails, . . .	\$183 53	Received from Labor of Convicts, . . .	\$61,573 36
paid Prisoners when discharged, . . .	194 00	Visitors, (Admission Fees,) . . .	652 75
Salaries of Officers, . . .	27,735 27	Rents, . . .	575 00
Provision department, . . .	25,526 16		\$62,801 11
Clothing department, . . .	9,769 23	Deficiency between disbursement and income, . .	22,164 75
Expense department, . . .	17,945 47		
Repairs and Improvements, . . .	3,612 20		
	\$84,965 86		\$84,965 86

MASSACHUSETTS STATE PRISON, September 30, 1865.

The above statement of the Disbursements and Income of this Prison, with the vouchers in detail, have been fully examined, and the same are hereby certified to be correct.

A. S. MORSS,
ESTES HOWE,
EDWIN WALDEN,
Inspectors.

Table showing the average number and cost per man for officers, provisions, clothing and all other expenses, and the average cash earnings per man for the last eleven years.

Y E A R.	Number.	Provisions.	Clothing.*	Officers.	Sundries.†	Total.	Earnings.	Deficit.	Excess.
1855, . .	483	\$37 64	\$15 48	\$52 13	\$39 18	\$144 43	\$111 39	\$33 04	-
1856, . .	455	37 66	11 41	55 84	33 00	137 91	121 05	15 86	-
1857, . .	441	43 06	10 93	68 32	32 56	154 87	121 54	33 33	-
1858, . .	469	38 63	14 09	64 67	30 87	148 26	109 65	38 61	-
1859, . .	495	37 14	11 80	63 08	18 00	130 02	111 60	18 42	-
1860, . .	510	31 61	9 95	59 30	10 29	113 15	118 27	-	\$5 12
1861, . .	520	35 23	9 57	58 88	22 11	125 79	121 14	4 65	-
1862, . .	506	35 75	9 40	61 18	21 45	127 78	86 86	40 92	-
1863, . .	431	41 48	7 81	70 45	45 69	165 34	142 52	22 82	-
1864, . .	377	62 69	15 53	78 21	65 61	222 04	149 09	72 95	-
1865, . .	359	71 10	27 21	77 25	61 10	236 66	174 93	61 73	-

* Including bedding and every description of dry goods used in the prison.

† Including transportation of prisoners, repairs and improvements, money paid to convicts when discharged, &c.

STATISTICS.

TABLE No. 1.

The whole number of convicts October 1, 1864, was	351
The number received under warrants from the Courts during the year ending and including September 30, 1864, was	129
From insane hospital returned,	1
	<hr/> 481
Discharged between October 1, 1864, and September 30, 1865:—	
By expiration of sentence,	66
By remission of sentence,	25
By death,	5
To insane hospital,	1
Escaped,	5
	<hr/> 102
Total number, September 30, 1865,	<hr/> 379

TABLE No. 2.

Ages of Convicts now in Prison.

From 10 to 15 years, 1	From 40 to 50 years, 41
15 to 20 years, 35	50 to 60 years, 23
20 to 25 years, 85	60 to 70 years, —
25 to 30 years, 89	Total, 379
30 to 40 years, 105	

TABLE No. 3.

Ages of Convicts received last year.

From 10 to 15 years, 1	From 30 to 40 years, 23
15 to 20 years, 23	40 to 50 years, 12
20 to 25 years, 33	50 to 60 years, 4
25 to 30 years, 33	Total, 129

TABLE No. 4.

Crimes of Convicts now in Prison.

Adultery,	2	Incest,	3
Arson,	11	Larceny in shop, depot, dwelling-house or other building, .	53
Assault with intent to murder, .	12	Larceny from person, . . .	23
Assault with intent of rape, .	16	Manslaughter,	25
Attempt to rob,	6	Mutinous conduct in Army, .	1
Breaking and entering vessel, shop, house, or other building, intending to steal and stealing,	80	Murder,	12
Breaking jail,	1	Obtaining goods by false pretences,	1
Burglary,	18	Polygamy,	3
Burning barns,	8	Procuring abortion, . . .	2
Common and notorious thieves, .	8	Rape,	16
Counterfeit coins or bills, . . .	2	Robbery,	36
Embezzlement,	3	Receiving stolen goods, . . .	4
Forgery,	4	Uttering counterfeit or worthless bank bills or coin, . . .	26
Having in possession counterfeit or worthless bank bills or coin, intending to pass the same,	2	Woman-slaughter,	1
		Total,	379

TABLE No. 5.

Crimes of Convicts received during the year.

Adultery,	1	Breaking and entering vessel, shop, house, or other building, intending to steal and stealing, .	23
Arson,	4	Breaking jail,	1
Assault with intent to murder, .	2	Burglary,	7
Assault with int. to commit rape, .	2		

TABLE No. 5—Continued.

Burning barn,	2	Murder,	1
Common thieves,	5	Mutinous acts in Army,	1
Forgery,	2	Polygamy,	1
Incest,	1	Rape,	4
Larceny in shop, depot, dwelling-house or other building,	28	Robbery,	16
Larceny from the person,	13	Uttering forged order, treasury and other notes,	11
Manslaughter,	4	Total,	129

TABLE No. 6.

Period of Sentences of Convicts now in Prison.

For 1 year,	6	For 8 years,	14
1 year and 3 months,	2	8 years and 8 months,	1
1 year and 6 months,	5	9 years,	3
2 years,	34	10 years,	36
2 years and 6 months,	11	11 years,	2
2 years and 10 months,	1	11 years and 3 months,	1
3 years,	53	11 years and 6 months,	1
4 years,	33	12 years,	9
4 years and 3 months,	1	13 years,	1
4 years and 6 months,	3	14 years,	2
5 years,	61	15 years,	11
5 years and 10 months,	1	20 years,	9
6 years,	19	23 years,	1
6 years and 3 months,	1	Life,	40
7 years,	17	Total,	379

TABLE No. 7.

Period of Sentence of Convicts received last year.

For 1 year, 6	For 7 years, 5
1 year and 3 months, 2	8 years, 1
1 year and 6 months, 5	10 years, 5
2 years, 15	12 years, 4
2 years and 6 months, 5	13 years, 1
2 years and 10 months, 1	14 years, 1
3 years, 32	15 years, 4
4 years, 7	20 years, 2
4 years and 6 months, 1	23 years, 1
5 years, 22	Life, 7
6 years, 1	Total, 129
6 years and 3 months, 1	

TABLE No. 8.

States and Countries of which Convicts received last year were Natives.

Canada, 4	Louisiana, 1
Connecticut, 8	Massachusetts, 139
England, 17	Maryland, 2
Florida, 1	Maine, 11
France, 1	New Brunswick, 6
Germany, 10	New Jersey, 2
Holland, 1	Nova Scotia, 4
Ireland, 91	New York, 41
Kentucky, 1	New Hampshire, 11

TABLE No. 8—Continued.

Portugal,	1	Vermont,	4
Pennsylvania,	5	Virginia,	1
Rhode Island,	5	West Indies,	1
Scotland,	8	Foreigners,	147
Spain,	1	Natives,	232
St. Helena,	1	Total,	379
Switzerland,	1		

TABLE No. 9.

States and Countries of which Convicts received last year were Natives.

Canada,	2	New Hampshire,	2
Connecticut,	4	New York,	13
England,	12	Nova Scotia,	1
Florida,	1	Pennsylvania,	1
Germany,	8	Portugal,	1
Ireland,	26	Rhode Island,	1
Maine,	4	Scotland,	4
New Brunswick,	2	St. Helena,	1
New Jersey,	1	Foreigners,	57
Massachusetts,	44	Natives,	72
Maryland,	1	Total,	129

TABLE No. 10.

Convicts now in Prison were convicted as follows:

Barnstable, 1	Newburyport, 13
Boston, 205	Northampton, 3
Cambridge, 12	New Bedford, 10
Concord, 10	Plymouth, 4
Dedham, 17	Salem, 12
Fitchburg, 8	Springfield, 11
Greenfield, 4	Taunton, 4
Lawrence, 13	Worcester, 18
Lenox, 21	Naval Court Martial, 1
Lowell, 11	Total, 379
Nantucket, 1	

TABLE No. 11.

Convicts received last year were convicted as follows:

Boston, 83	Lowell, 4
Cambridge, 2	Newburyport, 6
Concord, 2	Salem, 5
Dedham, 2	Springfield, 4
Fitchburg, 3	Worcester, 8
Greenfield, 1	Naval Court Martial, 1
Lawrence, 1	Total, 129
Lenox, 7	

TABLE No. 12.

Employment of Convicts, September 30, 1865.

<i>For Contractors.</i>			
Blacksmiths, . . .	26	Carpenter, Cooper and Painter, . . .	3
Brushmakers, . . .	30	Cookery and Bakery, . .	9
Cabinet-makers, . . .	27	Runners for shops, . .	10
Carvers,	45	Shoemakers,	3
Chair-makers,	18	Sweepers, Waiters, Hospital Nurses, . . .	10
Lamps and Bronzed goods,	32	Tailors,	5
Founders,	19	Team-hands, Yard-hands, Wood-sawyers and other Laborers,	11— 64
Upholsterers,	39	Confinement, (close,) . .	1
Varnishers,	22	Old and Infirm, and in Hospital, sick, . . .	3— 4
Whipmakers,	53—311	Total,	379
<i>For Prison account.</i>			
Blacksmiths,	3		
Barbers, Clothes-menders and Washmen, . . .	10		

TABLE No. 13.

The Sentences of Convicts now in Prison expire as follows :

Oct., Nov., and Dec., 1865, . .	7	In 1876,	1
In 1866,	72	1877,	7
1867,	65	1878,	2
*1868,	64	1879,	5
1869,	43	1880,	4
1870,	25	1883,	2
1871,	11	1884,	1
1872,	10	1885,	2
1873,	6	1888,	1
1874,	4	Life,	40
1875,	7	Total,	379

TABLE NO. 14.

Life Sentences.

Number under sentence for life, October 1, 1864, was	38
Number received during the year ending September 30, 1864, was . .	7
	<hr/> 45
Discharged during the year ending September 30, 1865 :	
By remission of sentence,	4
Died,	1— 5
Total now in prison,	<hr/> 40

TABLE NO. 15.

Names of Crimes of Convicts in Prison under Sentence of Imprisonment for Life.

Assault, intending to kill,	1	Murder (sentence of death commuted,)	7
Arson,	5	Rape,	16
Assault, intending to ravish,	1	Robbery, with force and violence,	4
Burglary,	1	Total,	<hr/> 40
Manslaughter,	1		
Murder,	4		

TABLE NO. 16.

Crimes of Convicts under Sentence for Life, who were received last year.

Arson,	1
Highway robbery,	1
Murder, death penalty commuted,	1
Rape,	4
Total,	<hr/> 7

TABLE No. 17.

Re-Commitments.

Of 379 Convicts now in Prison, 53 are re-commitments, viz.:

For the 2d time,	40
3d time,	10
4th time,	2
5th time,	1
Total,	53

Of the 129 Convicts received during the last year, 6 are re-commitments, viz.:

For the 2d time,	5
3d time,	1
Total,	6

TABLE No. 18.

Of Numbers, &c., of Convicts during the year.

The largest number at any one time during the year was . 383	March, 1865, 355 $\frac{2}{3}$
The smallest number at any one time during the year was . 347	April, 1865, 356 $\frac{3}{8}$
The average number during the year, per day, was . 359	May, 1865, 357 $\frac{1}{11}$
Monthly average:—	June, 1865, 363 $\frac{5}{8}$
October, 1864, 349 $\frac{1}{11}$	July, 1865, 363
November, 1864, 356 $\frac{3}{8}$	August, 1865, 366 $\frac{1}{31}$
December, 1864, 357 $\frac{1}{11}$	September, 1865, 378 $\frac{7}{8}$
January, 1865, 353	There are now 22 negroes and colored persons in prison, of whom 2 were received last year.
February, 1865, 356 $\frac{3}{8}$	

TABLE NO. 19.

Daily Ration for Convicts in the Massachusetts State Prison.

SUNDAY.

Breakfast—Meat hash, brown bread and coffee.*Dinner*—Baked beans and pork, white bread and coffee.

MONDAY.

Breakfast—Fish hash, brown bread and coffee.*Dinner*—Corn beef and potatoes and brown bread.*Supper*—White bread and coffee.

TUESDAY.

Breakfast—Meat hash, brown bread and coffee.*Dinner*—Beef soup and brown bread.*Supper*—Indian pudding and coffee.

WEDNESDAY.

Breakfast—Fish hash, brown bread and coffee.*Dinner*—Stewed peas and pork, and brown bread.*Supper*—White bread and coffee.

THURSDAY.

Breakfast—Fish hash, brown bread and coffee.*Dinner*—Fish chowder and brown bread.*Supper*—White bread and coffee.

FRIDAY.

Breakfast—Meat hash, brown bread and coffee.*Dinner*—Baked beans and pork, and brown bread.*Supper*—White bread and coffee.

SATURDAY.

Breakfast—Fish hash, brown bread and coffee.*Dinner*—Beef soup and brown bread.*Supper*—White bread and coffee.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

To His Excellency JOHN A. ANDREW, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the Honorable Council.

The Chaplain of the State Prison, in presenting his Annual Report, would beg leave to say that the customary duties belonging to his office have been discharged as usual, and that no special changes have taken place in his department of labor during the year.

The preaching of the glorious gospel of the blessed God has not been omitted for a single Sabbath, but either the Chaplain or some other minister of righteousness has occupied the pulpit of our chapel, and declared to the convicts the unsearchable riches of Christ. Some of the most eloquent and able divines of this and the neighboring cities, from some half dozen different religious denominations, have preached here, so that our men have been favored with a variety of gifts, and if they have not been profited, there must have been on their part culpable indifference, and they can blame no one but themselves if, to them, the precious truth of Christ crucified has been the savor of death unto death, rather than of life unto life.

The Chaplain seeks this variety in the teaching of the ministry here, not only in the hope of doing more good to the inmates of the prison, but also that more preachers of the gospel may feel a deep interest and sympathy for prisoners; for all who come here to preach, evidently, have their feelings enlisted to a greater or less degree in their behalf. Indeed, some who have preached here for the first time have been profuse in their expressions of interest, and have manifested an earnest desire that the men who have listened so attentively to their instructions might be saved.

The Sabbath school has been maintained with about as many scholars as in the preceding year, and with the same teachers,

excepting in two or three instances, and we doubt not with, as heretofore, a beneficial result.

Daily religious services have been held in the morning, conducted by the Chaplain or some other clergyman, which have been attended by all the convicts, except a few who are necessarily detained by their peculiar avocations.

Thousands of tracts and religious papers have been circulated, with the hope and prayer that some of them might be the good seed falling upon good ground, and bringing forth fruit, thirty, sixty, and even a hundred fold. The sick in the hospital have been frequently visited, and such instructions given, sympathy expressed, and prayer offered, as the circumstances of different cases seemed to demand.

It is our purpose to have a Bible in every cell, and if the inmate cannot read English, to let him have one in German, or French, or the language he *can* read, whatever it may be.

Of course, we cannot say for certainty how much the men read their Bibles, but they are often found reading them, not only on the Sabbath, but on other days. In some cases this may be done in order to lead the officer who sees them to think them more pious or religiously inclined than they really are, but such hypocritical offenders, we hope, are scarce. Many will say, and in most instances, doubtless, truthfully, that they have read the good book more since they have been confined here, than they ever did in their lives previously.

“And now, Mr. Chaplain,” as many persons say to us, “do you believe there is any use in trying to do good to the hardened men in the State prison?” Our answer is, Why should it be thought a thing incredible that God should raise the dead? Men dead in trespasses and sins outside the prison are raised to newness of life; why, then, should they not be inside the prison? Is there anything in these massive granite walls, and iron doors, with their bolts and bars, that can keep the Spirit of God from finding an entrance here? Hardened men! Allowing that they *all* are hardened, what then? Is there any heart here so adamant that the hammer of God’s law cannot break it? Is there any heart here so obdurate that it cannot be sympathetically touched by the dying agonies of the crucified One? Is there any heart here so frozen that it cannot be melted by the warm stream of mercy that flows from the compassionate

Redeemer? Is there any heart here so vile, so sunken in the depths of pollution and degradation, that it cannot be washed by the powerful, efficacious, atoning blood of the Lamb? Hardened! Well, suppose they are hardened, and are great sinners, very great sinners; is not Christ a great, a very great Saviour? We are told in the Scriptures that he is able to save them, to the uttermost, that come unto God by him. And are any here beyond the uttermost?

But we have allowed too much; the prisoners here are not *all* hardened men. Some of them are, it is true—perhaps the most of them; but there are others who are very far from being hardened men in crime and guilt. There are those here who are imprisoned for their first offence, which was not, comparatively, a serious one, and, perhaps too, committed while in a state of intoxication, and is never thought of but with indignation, regret and remorse. There are those here who are young in years, mere lads, boys of sixteen and seventeen. As will be seen by the statistical tables in the Warden's report, there are thirty-six that are under twenty years of age. Can any man of common sense believe that these thirty-six young persons are *all* hardened felons? There are those here who have had many religious privileges; they have heard the gospel preached from their infancy; for years they have attended the Sabbath school; they have fathers who have counselled them and labored for their best good, and mothers who have yearned over them with overflowing affection, and who have prayed for them, and with them, that they might become the children of God. Some of them, indeed, are too insensible to all these associations, but there are others who think of them, who reflect upon them solemnly, and who are susceptible to good influences still arising or flowing from them. To see the breast heave, the lip quiver, and the tear flow when the sacred name of mother, with her loving heart and earnest prayer, is mentioned, implies that there is something still left of the man; that he is not entirely callous; that he is not, at least, beyond the hope of redemption.

While the Chaplain may speak thus, of course it becomes him to use much caution in saying anything about the success of his labors during the past year, or during the nearly five years that he has been here. Several persons have stated that they believed they had passed from death unto life,—that they had become

Christians, and intended to live a religious life. Some of them are still here, and some have left the institution. Of those who have left, one young man was discharged March, 1863, joined a Christian church in this city, July, 1863, and up to the present time has conducted himself in an exemplary and consistent manner. He frequently takes part in the meetings of the church, to the satisfaction of the members.

Another, who was discharged June, 1862, united with a church in Boston, and, so far, has done well. We might specify other cases; but we mention these simply to show that there are those who profess to become good men while in prison who run well, for a season at any rate, after they get out. One young man who was sent here for life, on a charge of arson, cherished the hope that he had met with a saving change. He was pardoned and left, January, 1863, and died the following May. His mother, writing of his departure, says: "He died like a lamb, saying I have no desire to live to go out into this sinful world again; I am prepared now to go; this world is not my home; I want to go home to Jesus." This mother, a highly respectable and intelligent Christian woman, was satisfied that her son had found *that* religion in this prison that could make a dying bed easy, and prepare him for the mansions of the just made perfect.

Now, however much any may doubt the usefulness of a Chaplain's labors, and sneer at what they call State prison religion, in contradistinction from other religion, we are fully satisfied that all their unbelief and ridicule will not and cannot overturn facts. Their presumptuously or modestly saying, "I don't believe," does not alter even one fact, nor change the truth of God.

The Chaplain of the Massachusetts State Prison is encouraged to preach and pray and labor in the hope that more will yet be accomplished for the highest, the spiritual, interests of the unfortunate, and, too often, wicked men, now confined in this place.

And it may not be improper to add that many have gone out from these walls who, though not professing to have met with any decided religious change while here, are living correct and sober lives. The Chaplain often meets such men in the streets, who cordially greet him, and with much apparent satisfaction

detail their circumstances, in many cases assuring him that they are honest and temperate, being steadily at work, supporting themselves and families well, and, perhaps, laying something by for a rainy day.

While it is a matter of grief that any should go away from this prison to do wrong again, to fall into the hands of their old associates in vice and crime, to again fall into habits of dissipation, to drink, carouse, and follow her whose house is the way to hell going down to the chambers of death, it is certainly a cause of congratulation and joy to all good men that so many go out, not only with the intention of being good citizens, but who really prove such—being temperate, honest and industrious. How much the religious agencies employed here may have contributed to such results we shall never know in this world, but in another world we may find that their influence has been greater than we now might be willing to allow.

Respectfully submitted.

GEORGE J. CARLETON,

Chaplain of the Massachusetts State Prison.

CHARLESTOWN, October 1, 1865.

PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

*To His Excellency JOHN A. ANDREW, Governor, and the
Honorable Executive Council of the Commonwealth of
Massachusetts :*

GENTLEMEN,—Since my last Report, terminating September 30th, 1864, the

Number of patients admitted to the hospital was	20
“ invalided for a day was	497
“ of days' residence in hospital,	992
“ excused from labor,	196
“ of daily applicants,	4,270
“ not prescribed for,	158

Of those who seek an interview with the physician at his visit in the morning,—and all who desire to do so have the privilege,—they are *invalided*, *i. e.*, kept in the hospital for a day or two, who are unable to work, and whom it is necessary to treat actively, for that day at least; and also those whose statements concerning themselves it is important at once to verify. The test can be applied only by bringing them for the requisite time under the eye of the officer of the hospital. If an individual knows that the physician invariably tests the correctness of his representations of disability, and that exposure and censure are sure to follow deception, he will be much less likely to repeat the attempt, or others to make it.

A man, for example, requests to be released from labor because he vomits his food, or has diarrhœa, or bloody dejections. He is detained a few hours, to ascertain the truth of his statements.

Of those *admitted* to the hospital, some were, as a preliminary step, *invalided*; the disease having assumed in the mean

time an indication of greater severity or longer duration; while others, whose sickness at the outset was of a serious nature, were at once *admitted*, without having been in the class of *invalided* patients.

Of those whose request to be excused from labor is granted, some may, while others do not, get a prescription. My course has been to grant a day's respite from work to an individual whose conduct has been good, even if no decided evidence of indisposition existed. Of course, such a man as I have described would make the request but seldom, and not probably without a good reason.

The number of *daily applicants* has been swelled by four or five individuals whose disease compelled them to apply daily for advice. Among this number two persons are now in my mind whose affection of the eye, although not of a nature to keep them unemployed, required daily examination and treatment for a long period of time, to preserve the integrity of the organ.

Furthermore, the number of applicants during June, July, August, and September, was 2,002. Of this number, 580 applied on account of diarrhœa. This affection was not confined to the months above specified, but was more or less a disturbing cause throughout the year.

Five deaths have taken place among four hundred and eighty inmates.

Edward Johnson died December 7th, of pulmonary consumption, having entered the prison on December 7th, 1861, and the hospital December 21st, 1863. At his trial for murder it was stated, by those thought competent to judge, that the disease had made such progress that he could not possibly survive six months. In view of this supposed fact he was permitted to plead guilty to the charge of manslaughter, and received the sentence of twenty years' imprisonment. He was 28 years old.

Charles Bradish, colored, had a severe hemorrhage from his lungs May 30th, while at work in the kitchen. The hemorrhage attacked him the next day in the hospital, to which place he had been removed. Astringents and opiates, stimulating applications to the extremities, croton oil to chest, ice in small quantities, and perfect rest in bed, with chest elevated, were prescribed. He died the same day very suddenly from a return

of his bleeding, the quantity of blood being so copious and overwhelming as to produce immediate suffocation. Bradish entered the prison November 28th, 1860, "a third comer," having passed fourteen years here, and several years in the House of Correction and other prisons. His crime was shop-breaking. His last sentence was for ten years.

James Hurley* was found dead Sunday morning, August 6th. Being a dangerous man, he was confined apart from the other prisoners. He had occasionally during some months made complaints of being unwell, although an examination did not reveal any disease. During the week prior to his death, at one of my visits, he stated that his bladder was full, and that he could not empty it, although an examination made externally showed that the organ contained no urine. To remove all doubts, the catheter was introduced, and the result was as anticipated. Having repeatedly made erroneous statements, confidence in his complaints was diminished. On Friday previous to his death there were no indications that his end was so near. His disease was peritonitis, or inflammation of the serous membrane which lines the abdominal cavity. In his case it was complicated with strumous tubercles and gangrene with effusion, the result of long confinement. Portions of the intestines were gangrenous and glued together. The symptoms of this form of peritonitis are generally obscure; the pains in the abdomen, unlike those of the acute form, are slight, and the constitutional disturbance inconsiderable. Treatment in cases of this disease, is unavailing, as they always terminate fatally. Hurley was 32 years of age, had been in prison four years and seven months during his last sentence, which was for life, and had passed altogether fourteen years in confinement. This was his third term. His crime was murder.

E. C. Starkweather applied to me July 28th, on account of loss of appetite and nausea, and got some medicine. August

* During his confinement he assaulted his officer, a man just and humane; and at two different times, while assuming the guise of an invalid, broke up completely the furniture of his cell. Taciturn for months together, he would then change his course, and address sharp and angry words to his officer. Kind words and acts seemingly made no impression. Long confinement, rendered necessary by his acts of violence, tended to exasperate him to a greater degree.

1st he applied again, and also on the 2d, and 3d of the month. The second day he was invalided and took an emetic. He remained in the hospital for one day, but was excused from labor on the morrow. August 7th he applied again, having in the mean time been at his work, got a prescription and was invalided on account of some pain in his bowels. He was directed to remain quiet in his bed and to take medicine to induce sleep. He did not at this time, or subsequently, assume that recumbent position with knees flexed upon the abdomen, almost always taken by patients with peritonitis, nor did he admit that he had chills. There was no nausea or vomiting until within two days of his death; the skin was not hot or the pulse rapid. He appeared listless, depressed, and indifferent as to the result. Pressure, firm and continued, produced admission only of slight pain. Cataplasms and fomentations to his bowels, and anodynes sufficient to keep him comfortable, constituted the treatment. He failed rapidly on the 10th, and died during the forenoon of the 11th. Stimulants during the last part of his sickness were administered.

The want of sensibility to pain and to those morbid processes going on in his abdomen were quite remarkable, and could be explained only by the great depression of spirits produced by *hope deferred*. He had been encouraged before his sickness with the expectation of a release from prison, a boon which, before he died, he despaired of obtaining. He had been in prison three years and two months.

Ebenezer Center died August 16th, aged 67. He was serving out his fourth sentence. He applied to me two or three months previous to his death, for swollen feet. This œdematous condition of the lower extremities indicated obstructions to the circulation in consequence of organic disease of some viscus, like the heart or liver. He was unwilling to remain in the hospital, nor did there appear any necessity of his doing so. He consulted me again August 10th, when he was admitted to the hospital. He was at this time cold, skin blue, and pulse feeble. His age and physical condition, impaired by slow chronic disease, forbade any but palliative and tonic treatment. The right lung was strongly adherent to the adjacent pleura, obliterating the cavity. The liver was granular, in consequence

of his former intemperate habits, and several pints of serum found in the abdominal cavity.

I always thought it due to the friends of the deceased, as well as to those who have supervision of the prison and its officers, that a history of each fatal case, and the cause of death, should appear with somewhat of minuteness of detail in the Annual Report. By so doing, I likewise indulge the hope that these papers may not prove entirely worthless to the future medical explorer.

Although typhoid fever has prevailed in Charlestown and vicinity the past more than in any previous year, and been in some families quite fatal, yet during the last year, as well as the previous eleven years, no case of the disease has occurred in the prison.

Those occupations requiring in-door work and the gathering of great numbers of men in a body, have an unfavorable influence upon their health and physical vigor. Persons thus situated are less able to resist disease and rally less rapidly and completely from its effect. If, therefore, we find a lowered vitality among the operatives in our factories and workshops, who when released from their daily toil, can breathe the healthy open air, are sustained by a consciousness of freedom and the social enjoyments which home gives, we must expect to witness a still lower grade of health among the inmates of the prison, who are deprived of those salutary influences.

In this connection I will state, that it has been my constant care to impress upon those who have just entered the prison, the danger of contracting habits which are certain to impair their vital energies and tend to produce mental imbecility and serious organic changes. It is clearly the duty of a humane government to assign to the inmates of their penitentiaries those trades or occupations, so far as practicable, which are the least injurious to health. With this conviction we cannot but approve of the giving up of the stone-cutting business within the limits of the prison; an occupation enveloped in an atmosphere loaded with dust, which entering the lungs at each inspiration, produces irritation and inflammation of those organs which are, independently of the surroundings, most prone to disease in our New England climate.

The shops within the prison walls will compare favorably in their construction for the health and comfort of those who work in them, with any in our State.

The drains into which all foul matter from night buckets and other sources is thrown, are cleansed by the ebb and flow of the tide and the free use of the Mystic.

Bathing, more indispensable to the health of an imprisoned than a free community, is regularly enjoyed by all the convicts.

The hospital officer, Mr. Lounsberry, continues to render faithful and valuable assistance. And the Warden is always ready, with his sound judgment and well directed humanity, to aid me in the discharge of my duties.

Respectfully submitted.

A. B. BANCROFT,
Physician Massachusetts State Prison.

CHARLESTOWN, September 30, 1865.

